

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
GREENVILLE DIVISION

United States of America,)	C/A No.: 6:97-CR-129-04
)	
v.)	
)	
Bernard L. Williams,)	ORDER
)	(Written Opinion)
Defendant.)	
)	
_____)	

AMENDED ORDER

The Court hereby amends its original Order to clarify its intent to substitute a “Time Served” sentence for a revised sentence if and only if the revised sentence *is less than* the amount of time the defendant has already served. The actual amendment to this Order only effects language in the Conclusion section of the Order and is italicized for the convenience of the reader. This amendment does not alter, effect, or change the date that the original Order became effective.

18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(2) Order for Sentence Reduction

This matter comes before the Court on the defendant’s motion for a reduction in the term of imprisonment imposed based on a guideline sentencing range that has subsequently been lowered and made retroactive by the United States Sentencing Commission (the Commission) pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 994(u).

Background

The defendant’s motion is based on Amendment 706 to U.S.S.G. § 2D1.1(c).

This amendment adjusts the base offense level assigned to each threshold quantity of cocaine base, or “crack cocaine,” downward by two levels. U.S.S.G. App. C, Amend. 706 (Nov. 1, 2007). On December 11, 2007, the Commission voted to add this amendment to the list of amendments in U.S.S.G. § 1B1.10(c) that may be applied retroactively. As this amendment became effective on March 3, 2008, this matter is now ready for disposition.

Discussion

The defendant was originally sentenced on September 22, 1997, with the following sentencing range:

Total Offense Level:	<u>29</u>
Criminal History Category:	<u>IV</u>
Months Imprisonment:	<u>121-151</u>

Taking into consideration these guidelines, the Court sentenced the defendant to 150 months. This sentence was within the range indicated by the guidelines. Further, the defendant’s sentence was not reduced pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1, Rule 35, or a variance under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), and it was rendered before the Supreme Court’s decision in *United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005).

After taking into account the amendments to § § 1B.10 & 2D1.10, the Court finds that the amended sentencing range should be:

Total Offense Level:	<u>27</u>
Criminal History Category:	<u>IV</u>

Months Imprisonment: 120-125

This Court will not consider any guideline decision from the previous sentencing that was unaffected by the recent amendment. U.S.S.G. § 1B1.10(b)(1).

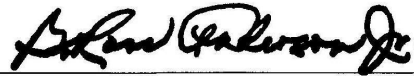
Conclusion

Having calculated and considered the revised sentencing guidelines, specifically the provisions of §§ 2D1.1(c) and 1B1.10, effective March 3, 2008, and having also considered the relevant statutory sentencing factors contained in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) and the advisory nature of the Sentencing Guidelines, it is the judgment of the Court that the defendant's previously imposed sentence be reduced to a term of 120 months imprisonment, a sentence within the revised advisory guidelines range. If this revised sentence *is less than* the amount of time the defendant has already served, the sentence is reduced to a "Time Served" sentence. See U.S.S.G. § 1B1.10(b)(2)(C) ("In no event may the reduced term of imprisonment be less than the term of imprisonment the defendant has already served."). Except as provided by this Order, all provisions of the defendant's previous sentence dated September 22, 1997, remain in full force.

IT IS THEREFORE SO ORDERED THAT the defendant's previously imposed sentence be reduced to a term of 120 months.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT this Order become effective 10 days after the date of its original entry, March 6, 2008.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



G. ROSS ANDERSON, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

March 17, 2008
Anderson, South Carolina

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Rules 3 and 4 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, the parties have the right to appeal this Order within sixty (60) days from the date of its entry. Failure to meet this deadline, as modified by Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, **will waive the right to appeal.**